

Message Text

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ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /201 W

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R 121620Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3796

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENGR, FR

SUBJECT: ENERGY: RECENT GOF DEVELOPMENTS

STATE FOR T/IEP

1. PRIME MINISTER MESSMER HAS APPOINTED ALBIN CHALANDON, UDR DEPUTY AND FORMER MINISTER (INDUSTRY IN ONE CABINET, EQUIPMENT AND HOUSING ON TWO OTHER OCCASIONS) AS OFFICIAL ESPECIALLY ENTRUSTED WITH GOF COOPERATION EFFORTS WITH ARABS. ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DATE IS THAT CHALANDON WILL BE ATTACHED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR HIS "TEMPORARY" ASSIGNMENT.

2. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, PRIME MINISTER (IN RADIO/TELEVISION INTERVIEW 12 FEBRUARY) STATED INTER ALIA THAT FONMIN JOBERT WAS ACTING UNDER "WRITTEN AND PRECISE" INSTRUCTIONS FROM GOF WHILE AT WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE. MESSMER STATED THAT JOBERT'S INSTRUCTIONS CAME FROM COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND WERE ENTIRELY IN KEEPING WITH EC MANDATE APPROVED

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FEBRUARY 6. WHEN QUESTIONED AS TO WHETHER JOBERT'S STIFF LINE AT

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE WAS ISOLATING FRANCE AMONG ITS EC PARTNERS, MESSMER ANSWERED THAT THIS WAS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT FRANCE HAD BEEN ISOLATED IN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS; IN PAST, HE ADDED, WHEN FRANCE STUCK TO ITS POSITIONS, OTHER EC MEMBERS EVENTUALLY RECOGNIZED THAT ITS POSITIONS WERE CORRECT.

3. QUESTIONED ON PRICES WHICH FRANCE WILL REPORTEDLY PAY FOR SAUDI OIL SUPPLIES, MESSMER ADMITTED THAT PARTICIPATION OIL WAS PRESENTLY MORE EXPENSIVE, BUT PREDICTED THAT BEFORE LONG ALL OIL WOULD BE SOLD AT SIMILAR PRICES DUE TO PRODUCER GOVERNMENTS' PRESSURE.

4. PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT LIBYAN PM JALLUD WILL VISIT PARIS 13 - 18 FEBRUARY. HIS ENTOURAGE WILL INCLUDE MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY, COMMUNICATIONS, AND UNDERSECRETARY FOR PETROLEUM; THE PRESS IS SPECULATING THAT SOME PROGRESS WILL BE MADE TOWARD LARG - GOF PETROLEUM/INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BILATERAL TO SUPPORT GOF'S CURRENT TACTIC OF FACING OTHER OIL CONSUMERS WITH FAITS ACCOMPLI.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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